

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE COMMISSION ON
MENTAL RETARDATION
AND
DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington St., Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789**

October 2007

INDIANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2007

Senator David Long
Chairman
Fort Wayne

Speaker B. Patrick Bauer
Vice-Chairman
South Bend

Senator Richard Young
Milltown

Representative Brian Bosma
Indianapolis

Senator Brant Hershman
Monticello

Representative Charlie Brown
Gary

Senator Connie Lawson
Danville

Representative Dale Grubb
Covington

Senator Teresa Lubbers
Indianapolis

Representative Scott Pelath
Michigan City

Senator James Merritt
Indianapolis

Representative Russell Stilwell
Boonville

Senator Vi Simpson
Bloomington

Representative William Friend
Macy

Senator Samuel Smith
East Chicago

Representative Kathy Richardson
Noblesville

John M. Ross
Executive Director
Legislative Services Agency

Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

Membership Roster

Senators

**Marvin Riegsecker, Chairperson
Goshen**

**Connie Sipes
New Albany**

Representatives

**Suzanne Crouch
Evansville**

**Sheila Klinker
Lafayette**

Lay Members

**Sally Lowery
Terre Haute**

**Christopher Durcholz
Brazil**

**Suda Hopkins
Gary**

**Betty Williams
Richmond**

**Susan Ferverda
Zionsville**

**Bettye Dunham
Elizabeth**

Legislative Services Agency Staff

**Susan Kennell
Attorney for the Commission**

**Kathy Norris
Fiscal Analyst for the Commission**

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Commission can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

The Indiana Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (Commission) was established by IC 2-5-27.2 to do the following:

- (1) Develop a long range plan to stimulate further development of cost effective, innovative models of community based services, including recommendations that identify implementation schedules, plans for resource development, and appropriate regulatory changes.
- (2) Review and make recommendations regarding any unmet needs for mental retardation and developmental disability services, including the following:
 - (A) Community residential and family support services.
 - (B) Services for aging families caring for their children who have mental retardation and adults with a developmental disability.
 - (C) Services for families in emergency or crisis situations.
 - (D) Services needed to move children and adults from nursing homes and state hospitals to the community.
- (3) Study and make recommendations for the state to use state employees or contract with a private entity to manage and implement home and community based services waivers under 42 U.S.C. 1396n(c).
- (4) Study and make recommendations regarding state funding needed to provide supplemental room and board costs for individuals who otherwise qualify for residential services under the home and community based services waivers.
- (5) Monitor and recommend changes for improvements in the implementation of home and community based services waivers managed by the state or by a private entity.
- (6) Review and make recommendations regarding the implementation of the comprehensive plan prepared by the developmental disabilities task force established by P.L.245-1997, SECTION 1.
- (7) Review and make recommendations regarding the development by the division of disability and rehabilitative services of a statewide plan to address quality assurance in community based services.
- (8) Annually review the infants and toddlers with disabilities program established under IC 12-12.7-2.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Commission met one time during the 2007 interim session on October 16, 2006, to hear reports from the Division of Disabilities and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) and the Arc of Indiana and the Indiana Association of Rehabilitative Facilities (INARF).

III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

At the October 16 meeting, the Commission received a report from DDRS covering the programs offered by DDRS, the effort being undertaken by the DDRS to assess staffing needs for salaries and professional development for care givers, the closing of Fort Wayne Developmental Center and Silvercrest, and First Steps. The Arc of Indiana and INARF provided the Commission with comments on the status of DDRS and their priorities for the future.

More details on the meeting can be obtained from the minutes which can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission made no recommendations.